

# News Release

## *Rhode Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex*

Block Island NWR □ John H. Chafee NWR at Pettaquamscutt Cove □ Ninigret NWR □ Sachuest Point NWR □ Trustom Pond NWR

50 Bend Road, Charlestown, RI 02813-0307

401/364-9124 Fax: 401/364-0170



## Public Programs by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

*These programs are offered FREE to the public by a dedicated and skilled group of volunteers, U.S. Fish & Wildlife staff and local community resources in an effort to increase your enjoyment of the conservation, protection and enhancement of your National Wildlife Refuges in Rhode Island.*

## April Programs

### **Wild About Reading**

We will read a nature-based story followed by nature themed activities. Join us for the fun in Kettle Pond's backyard! (best for ages 3 – 6)

*USFWS Volunteers*

**Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:30<sub>AM</sub> – 11:30<sub>AM</sub>**

**Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown**

### **The Piping Plovers and You – Come Learn How You Can Volunteer!**

The 2013 piping plover season is about to start – and we are looking for volunteers! Volunteers are needed to help protect nesting territories, educate the public on plover biology and local laws, monitor beaches, and document activity at nesting sites. This program will consist of a volunteer training followed by pizza and roping at East Beach, Charlestown. If you are interested in volunteering, please join us!

*Erin King, USFWS*

**Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:30<sub>AM</sub> – 12:00<sub>PM</sub>**

**Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown**

### **Wild About Reading**

We will read a nature-based story followed by nature themed activities. Join us for the fun in Kettle Pond's backyard! (best for ages 3 – 6)

*USFWS Volunteers*

**Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:30<sub>AM</sub> – 11:30<sub>AM</sub>**

**Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown**

### **Open Spaces Walk with the Charlestown Land Trust**

Join us on the second Saturday of every month for our latest series of open spaces walks, sponsored and lead by the Charlestown Land Trust. Each walk will address topics such as vernal pools, seasonal changes in the wildlife world, Rhode Island's open spaces and more! Charlestown's Land Trust preserves and protects the distinctive character of our local area through acquisition and management of open space.

*Charlestown Land Trust*

**Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 9:00<sub>AM</sub> – 10:00<sub>AM</sub>**  
**Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown**

### **Reconnecting to Nature**

Did you ever notice how taking a walk outside clears your head and brightens your mood? We spend so much of our time inside, sitting at computers or watching TV, that many of us have lost this natural connection to the outdoors. Learn how to reconnect to the world of plants, trees and animals through a meditative winter walk, guided visualization, group mandala, simple movement, mark making and writing. Self-discover information about your authentic self by settling down and showing appreciation for our beautiful surroundings. No previous experience in art, writing or movement is required for this class. Pre-registration is required and this program is for adults only. Please call the Kettle Pond Visitor Center at 401-364-9124 to register.

*Wendy Rappaport, USFWS Volunteer*

**Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2:30<sub>PM</sub> – 4:30<sub>PM</sub>**  
**Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown**

### **Storm Ecology, A Natural Wonder**

Come explore the importance of storms as USFWS Staff Member Neil Anthes provides perspective as to how "natural disasters" are truly natural wonders. This program will include an open forum lecture followed by a shirt hike..

*Neil Anthes, USFWS Staff*

**Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 1:00<sub>PM</sub> – 2:30<sub>PM</sub>**  
**Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown**

### **Wild About Reading**

We will read a nature-based story followed by nature themed activities. Join us for the fun in Kettle Pond's backyard! (best for ages 3 – 6)

*USFWS Volunteers*

**Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 10:30<sub>AM</sub> – 11:30<sub>AM</sub>**  
**Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown**

### **Connecting With Nature Through the Arts – *Insect Exploration***

Create your own crafts, using mainly recycled materials, while learning about wildlife – and this month we'll be focusing on insects! Stop by any time between 10:00<sub>AM</sub> and 1:00<sub>PM</sub> to take part in this fun activity!

*Haley Moniz & Rachel Schilke, USFWS Volunteers*

**Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 10:00<sub>AM</sub> – 1:00<sub>PM</sub>**  
**Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown**

### **Kayaking Basics**

Ever wonder if you were approaching kayaking properly? Come learn some kayaking basics from Jim Cole, author of "Paddling Connecticut and Rhode Island," including types of kayaks, required equipment, paddling techniques, safety concerns and places to go. A short video will be presented which covers all the essential information needed to safely kayak the local waterways, followed by a question and answer session.

*Jim Cole, USFWS Volunteer*

**Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 1:00<sub>PM</sub> – 2:30<sub>PM</sub>**  
**Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown**

### **Wild About Reading**

We will read a nature-based story followed by nature themed activities. Join us for the fun in Kettle Pond's backyard! (best for ages 3 – 6)

*USFWS Volunteers*

**Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10:30<sub>AM</sub> – 11:30<sub>AM</sub>**  
**Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown**

**The Cinder Worm Program is on again.**

**Register Now! Applications taken for both students & mentors**

**Fly Tying: Tuesday April 30rd and Monday May 6th 6:30 – 8:30**

**Fishing: Saturday, May 11th 4pm to dark**

**Kettle Pond Visitor Center, Charlestown, Rhode Island**

For the past three years, Dave Pollack / Capt. Ray Stachelek and mentors from Connecticut/ Rhode Island Coastal Fly Fishers along with the Rhody Fly Rodders group have been facilitating this instructional program, with the aid of the US Fish & Wildlife and RIDEM. The first two sessions are devoted to tying cinder worm emergence patterns. One Saturday afternoon/evening is devoted to fishing them on Ninigret Pond. Many of you have already participated as students and/or instructors.

We are doing it again in the spring of 2013. Fly tying will be on two weekday nights at the USF&W Kettle Pond Nature Center. Fishing will be on Saturday at Ninigret Park.

We provide all necessary fly tying tools, materials, and fly rod outfits as needed.

Every year there is a waiting list for new students. The class enrollment is limited to 40 students.

Looking for instructors, our student to teacher ratio ideally would be 3-1.

**Pre-registration is required.**

**For further information and registration contact:**

**Janis Nepshinsky at 401-364-9124, ext. 28 or**

**Janis\_Nepshinsky@fws.gov**